



City of New Bedford  
Scott W. Lang, Mayor

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## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

### **Officials to Announce Recipient of Annual Sister Rose Award for Dedicated Service to the Homeless Population**

**NEW BEDFORD, MA** – On Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. New Bedford Mayor Scott W. Lang and the New Bedford Office of Housing & Community Development will host the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Sister Rose Award Ceremony at the New Bedford Art Museum, 608 Pleasant St., New Bedford. The award, named in honor of its first recipient, Market Ministries Executive Director Sister Rose Ellen Gallogly, is given annually to a person from within the homeless continuum of care in recognition of his or her compassion, achievement, and dedication to the principle that every person is entitled to live with dignity.

Nominations are gathered from colleagues through the City's Homeless Service Providers' Network (HSPN), the membership component of the continuum. The final decision is made by the HSPN's Executive Committee, and announced during the City's Community Development Block Grant Week

"The Annual Sister Rose Award ceremony is a signature event of our CDBG Week celebration," said Mayor Lang. "It's a opportunity for the homeless service provider community to celebrate its accomplishments and to single an individual for special recognition. Unfortunately, their work often goes unrecognized and so this event is a wonderful way to express our appreciation for their ongoing efforts to serve New Bedford's homeless population."

"We have one of the most engaged and active continuum of care networks in the state," added Office of Housing and Community Development Director Patrick Sullivan. "They do tremendous work to serve New Bedford's most vulnerable citizens. They should be celebrated, not just on this day, but all year long."

In addition to its entitlement allocation from Housing and Urban Development, which includes the CDBG, HOME Investment Partnership, and Emergency Shelter Grant

programs, the City of New Bedford, through its HSPN, receives competitive funding through the McKinney-Vento Supportive Housing Program. In December 2007, HUD announced that New Bedford was awarded \$1.2 million to fund permanent and transitional supportive housing programs through agencies such as Catholic Social Services, Steppington, Inc., and Veterans Transition House. These funds are used to provide clean, safe living environments for homeless individuals and families, as well as the appropriate supportive services to address the myriad social and psychological issues that often accompany homelessness.

To date, the City has received \$13 million of McKinney-Vento funding. This year's funding will go to eight programs, representing 43 transitional housing beds and 203 permanent housing beds.

For more information about the Sister Rose Award and the HSPN, please call the Office of Housing and Community Development at 508-979-1500.

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